

**Calendar No. 264**

104TH CONGRESS  
1ST Session

**S. 991**

**A BILL**

To amend title 38, United States Code, and other statutes, to extend VA's authority to operate various programs, collect copayments associated with provision of medical benefits, and obtain reimbursement from insurance companies for care furnished.

DECEMBER 12, 1995

Reported with an amendment and an amendment to the title

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29 (legislative day, JUNE 19), 1995

Mr. SIMPSON (by request) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

DECEMBER 12, 1995

Reported by Mr. SIMPSON, with an amendment and an amendment to the title  
[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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**A BILL**

To amend title 38, United States Code, and other statutes, to extend VA's authority to operate various programs, collect copayments associated with provision of medical benefits, and obtain reimbursement from insurance companies for care furnished.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1       ~~SEC. 2.~~ Section 1720A(e) is amended by striking  
 2       “1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “1997”.

3       ~~SEC. 3.~~ Section 1720C(a) is amended by striking  
 4       “1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “1996”.

5       ~~SEC. 4.~~ Section 1722A(e) is amended by striking  
 6       “1998” and inserting in lieu thereof “2000”.

7       ~~SEC. 5.~~ (a) Section 1732 is amended—

8               (1) in the heading by striking “and grants”;

9               (2) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating  
 10       subsections (c) and (d) as (b) and (c);

11              (3) in subsection (b) as redesignated by striking  
 12       “or grant” both places it appears;

13              (4) in subsection (c) as redesignated by striking  
 14       “and to make grants”.

15       (b) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter  
 16       17 is amended by revising the item relating to section  
 17       1732 to read as follows:

~~“1732. Contracts to provide for the care and treatment of United States veter-  
 ans by the Veterans Memorial Medical Center”.~~

18       ~~SEC. 6.~~ Section 3735(e) is amended by striking  
 19       “1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “1997”.

20       ~~SEC. 7.~~ Section 7451(d)(3)(C)(iii) is amended by  
 21       striking “1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “1999”.

22       ~~SEC. 8.~~ Section 7618 is amended by striking “1995”  
 23       and inserting in lieu thereof “1999”.

1       ~~SEC. 9.~~ Section 8169 is amended by striking “1995”  
2 and inserting in lieu thereof “1997”.

3       ~~SEC. 10.~~ Section 115(d) of the Veterans’ Benefits  
4 and Services Act of 1988, Public Law 100–322, is amend-  
5 ed by striking “1995” and inserting in lieu thereof  
6 “1998”.

7       ~~SEC. 11.~~ Section 7(a) of Public Law 102–54 is  
8 amended by striking “1995” and inserting in lieu thereof  
9 “1998”.

10       ~~SEC. 12.~~ Section 8013(e) of the Omnibus Budget  
11 Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–508) is  
12 amended by striking “1998” and inserting in lieu thereof  
13 “2000”.

14       ~~SEC. 13.~~ The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry  
15 out the major medical facility projects for the Department  
16 of Veterans Affairs, and may carry out the major medical  
17 facility leases for that Department, for which funds are  
18 requested in the budget of the President for fiscal year  
19 1996, and authorization is required under section  
20 8104(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code.

21       ~~SEC. 14.~~ (a) There are authorized to be appropriated  
22 to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 1996—

23               (1) \$224,800,000 for the major medical facility  
24 projects authorized in section 13; and

1           ~~(2) \$2,790,000 for the major medical facility~~  
 2           ~~leases authorized in section 13.~~

3           ~~(b) The projects authorized in section 13 may only~~  
 4           ~~be carried out using—~~

5           ~~(1) funds appropriated for fiscal year 1996 pur-~~  
 6           ~~suant to the authorization of appropriations in sub-~~  
 7           ~~section (a);~~

8           ~~(2) funds appropriated for Construction, Major~~  
 9           ~~Projects for any fiscal year that remain available for~~  
 10           ~~obligation; and~~

11           ~~(3) funds appropriated for Construction, Major~~  
 12           ~~Projects for any fiscal year for a category of activity~~  
 13           ~~not specific to a project.~~

14           ~~SEC. 15. Section 1710(e)(3) is amended to read as~~  
 15           ~~follows:~~

16           ~~“(3) Hospital and nursing home care and medi-~~  
 17           ~~cal services may not be provided under or by virtue~~  
 18           ~~of subsection (a)(1)(G) of this section—~~

19           ~~“(A) after December 31, 1996 in the case~~  
 20           ~~of a veteran described in paragraph (1)(A); or~~

21           ~~“(B) after September 30, 1997 in the case~~  
 22           ~~of a veteran described in paragraph (1)(C).”~~

23           ~~SEC. 16. Section 1712(a)(1)(D) is amended by strik-~~  
 24           ~~ing out “December 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof~~  
 25           ~~“September 10, 1997”.~~

1       ~~SEC. 17.~~ Section ~~1729(a)(2)(E)~~ is amended by strik-  
 2   ing “1998” and inserting in lieu thereof “2000”.

3   **SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.**

4       (a) *AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE PRIORITY HEALTH CARE*  
 5   *FOR CERTAIN VETERANS EXPOSED TO TOXIC SUB-*  
 6   *STANCES.—(1)(A) Effective June 29, 1995, section*  
 7   *1710(e)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by*  
 8   *striking out “after June 30, 1995,” and all that follows*  
 9   *through “December 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof*  
 10   *“after December 31, 1996”.*

11       (B) *Any hospital or nursing home care or medical*  
 12   *services furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs by*  
 13   *virtue of section 1710(a)(1)(G) of title 38, United States*  
 14   *Code, during the period beginning on June 30, 1995, and*  
 15   *ending on the date of the enactment of this Act is hereby*  
 16   *ratified.*

17       (2) *Section 1712(a)(1)(D) of such title is amended by*  
 18   *striking out “December 31, 1995,” and inserting in lieu*  
 19   *thereof “December 31, 1996.”.*

20       (b) *DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE.—*  
 21   *Section 1720A(e) of such title is amended by striking out*  
 22   *“December 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “Decem-*  
 23   *ber 31, 1997”.*

24       (c) *PILOT PROGRAM FOR NONINSTITUTIONAL ALTER-*  
 25   *NATIVES TO NURSING HOME CARE.—Section 1720C(a) of*

1 *such title is amended by striking out “September 30, 1995,”*  
 2 *and inserting in lieu thereof “December 31, 1996,”.*

3 (d) *DEMONSTRATION PROJECT TO GUARANTEE AD-*  
 4 *JUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGES.*—Section 3707(a) of such  
 5 *title is amended by striking out “fiscal years 1993, 1994,*  
 6 *and 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “fiscal years 1993*  
 7 *through 1997”.*

8 (e) *AGREEMENTS FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR*  
 9 *HOMELESS VETERANS.*—Section 3735(c) of such title is  
 10 *amended by striking out “December 31, 1995” and insert-*  
 11 *ing in lieu thereof “December 31, 1997”.*

12 (f) *USE OF DATA ON COMPENSATION FOR CERTIFIED*  
 13 *REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS.*—(1) *Effective March*  
 14 *31, 1995, section 7451(d)(3)(C)(iii) of such title is amended*  
 15 *by striking out “April 1, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof*  
 16 *“December 31, 1999”.*

17 (2) *The use by any director of a Department of Veter-*  
 18 *ans Affairs health-care facility of data on rates of com-*  
 19 *pensation paid to certified nurse anesthetists in a labor*  
 20 *market area under section 7451(d)(3)(C) of title 38, United*  
 21 *States Code, during the period beginning on April 1, 1995,*  
 22 *and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act is here-*  
 23 *by ratified.*

24 (g) *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PRO-*  
 25 *GRAM.*—Section 7618 of such title is amended by striking

1 out “December 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “De-  
 2 cember 31, 1996”.

3 (h) *ENHANCED-USE LEASES OF REAL PROPERTY*.—  
 4 Section 8169 of such title is amended by striking out “De-  
 5 cember 31, 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “December  
 6 31, 1997”.

7 (i) *AUTHORITY FOR COMMUNITY-BASED RESIDENTIAL*  
 8 *CARE FOR HOMELESS CHRONICALLY MENTALLY ILL VET-*  
 9 *ERANS AND OTHER VETERANS*.—Section 115(d) of the Vet-  
 10 erans’ Benefits and Services Act of 1988 (38 U.S.C. 1712  
 11 note) is amended by striking out “September 30, 1995” and  
 12 inserting in lieu thereof “December 31, 1997”.

13 (j) *DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM OF COMPENSATED*  
 14 *WORK THERAPY*.—Section 7(a) of Public Law 102–54 (38  
 15 U.S.C. 1718 note) is amended by striking out “fiscal years  
 16 1991 through 1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “the pe-  
 17 riod beginning on October 1, 1991, and ending on December  
 18 31, 1997,”.

19 (k) *AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE*  
 20 *IN FURNISHING SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS*  
 21 *VETERANS*.—(1) Section 3(a) of the Homeless Veterans  
 22 Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992 (Public Law  
 23 102–590; 106 Stat. 5136; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note) is amended  
 24 by striking out “fiscal years 1993, 1994, and 1995,” and  
 25 inserting in lieu thereof “fiscal years 1993 through 1997,”.



1       (2) *Section 12 of such Act (106 Stat. 5142) is amended*  
 2 *by striking out “each of the fiscal years 1993, 1994, and*  
 3 *1995” and inserting in lieu thereof “each of fiscal years*  
 4 *1993 through 1997”.*

5       (l) *HOMELESS VETERANS’ REINTEGRATION*  
 6 *PROJECTS.—(1) Section 738(e)(1) of the Stewart B.*  
 7 *McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448(e)(1))*  
 8 *is amended by adding at the end the following:*

9               *“(D) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1996.”.*

10       (2) *Section 741 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11450) is*  
 11 *amended by striking out “October 1, 1995” and inserting*  
 12 *in lieu thereof “October 1, 1996”.*

13       (m) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in sub-*  
 14 *sections (a)(1) and (f)(1), the amendments made by this sec-*  
 15 *tion shall take effect on October 1, 1995.*

16       Amend the title to read as follows: “To amend title  
 17 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the  
 18 Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out certain pro-  
 19 grams and activities, and for other purposes.”.